

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-05 SCCT-01

OC-05 CCO-00 CU-02 /075 W
----- 006544

O R 010420Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2802

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUVUMBURA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 4556

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: CONVERSATION WITH FORMIN

1. BULA BEGAN BY APOLOGIZING FOR LATENESS OF HOUR. (IT WAS WELL AFTER MIDNIGHT, JUNE 1), EXPLAINING THAT HE HAD HAD TO ENTERTAIN IMPORTANT PORTUGUESE DELEGATION. I HAVE HIM COMPLETE RUNDOWN ON SITUATION AS I SAW IT AND HE TOOK NOTES AND ASKED QUESTIONS, STRESSING TIME FACTOR, I SAID WE WERE READY TO IMPLEMENT PLAN AT ONCE.

2. HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH OTHERS AND GET TO PRESIDENT. HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO GET US AN EARLY REPLY. I ASSURED HIM WE WOULD NOT ACT ON PLAN WITHOUT IT .

3. IN COURSE DISCUSSION HE ADVANCED PROPOSITION THAT CAPTIVES MIGHT NOT BE IN ZAIRE AND I COUNTERED BY SAYING THAT EVEN IN THAT CASE, UNLIKELY AS WE THOUGHT IT TO BE,
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GOZ WOULD HAVE HELPED US GREATLY BY PERMITTING EFFORT

TO ESTABLISH CONTACT AND NEGOTIATE TO GO FORWARD.

4. APART FROM CRITICISM OF US PRESS FOR ALLEGING GOZ NON-COOPERATION AND PASSING COMMENT ABOUT SIKORSKI COMMANDO OPERATION WHICH LIBERATED MUSSOLINI IN WORLD WAR II, HE SEEMED GENUINELY INTERESTED IN UNDERSTANDING PLAN, ROLE ENVISAGED FOR FATHER VAGNI. AND HOW STEINER-MACFARLANE-LOVING FITTED IN. I TOLD HIM, INCIDENTALLY, THAT GOZ REP WITH BASE GROUP WOULD BE WELCOME, BUT THAT GOT REPORTEDLY DID NOT WISH PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT NYERERE HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH DUTCH AMBASSADOR THAT INTERMEDIARIES PLAN COULD BE PURSUED.

5. HE ASKED ABOUT US GOVERNMENT POLICY AND I TOLD HIM WE DID NOT PAY RANSOM AND THAT OUR EXPERIENCE HAD BEEN THAT PERSUASION OFTEN DID THE TRICK BUT TO TRY PERSUASION, ONE HAD TO ESTABLISH CONTACT.

6. I ALSO MENTIONED AS QUITE SECONDARY POINTS OUR REQUEST FOR STEINER VISA, AND DAO PLANE FLIGHT AUTHORIZATION AND TRANSPORT DELAY WE FACING IN MOVING EXTRA COMMUNICATOR FROM GHANA TO BUJUMBURA. HE SAID HE WOULD TRY TO HELP IF I WOULD GET DETAILS TO HIM AT 9:00 AM SUNDAY MORNING, WHICH IS BEING DONE. HE THEN SWITCHED SUBJECT BACK TO ANGOLA.
HINTON

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